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abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

*Amendments**In the Claims:*

Please cancel claim 22 without prejudice or disclaimer.

{ Please substitute the following claim 1 for the pending claim 1: }

A¹

1. (Once amended) A method of classifying cancer cells in a body fluid sample of a patient with cancer or a patient suspected of having cancer, comprising: isolating circulating cancer cells in the body fluid sample of the patient, and characterizing said circulating cancer cells using cytological and morphological analyses by fluorescence microscopy to determine the classification of the cancer cells isolated, wherein the cancer cell classification comprises terminal cells and proliferative cells.

{ Please substitute the following claim 3 for the pending claim 3: }

A²

3. (Once amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said terminal cancer cell is about 20-50 micrometers in diameter.

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{ Please substitute the following claim 6 for the pending claim 6: }

A³ 6. (Once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one cancer cell is a terminal cancer cell with a nucleus.

{ Please substitute the following claim 9 for the pending claim 9: }

A⁴ 9. (Once amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said cancer cell is about 25-35 micrometers in diameter.

{ Please substitute the following claim 19 for the pending claim 19: }

A⁵ 19. (Once amended) A method of determining the presence or absence of cancer cells capable of causing metastatic cancer, comprising:

- (a) isolating circulating cancer cells in a body fluid sample of a patient with cancer or a patient suspected of having cancer;
- (b) characterizing said isolated cells using cytological and morphological analyses by fluorescence microscopy to distinguish cancer cell classes;
- (c) determining the classification of the cancer cells isolated, wherein the cancer cell classification comprises terminal cells and proliferative cells; and
- (d) wherein when said cells are classified as proliferative cells, they are capable of causing metastatic cancer.

{ Please substitute the following claim 21 for the pending claim 21: }

A⁶ 21. (Amended) A method of determining the efficacy of a medical procedure, comprising:

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- (a) conducting a first isolation of circulating cancer cells in a body fluid sample of a patient with cancer or a patient suspected of having cancer;
 - (b) characterizing said isolated cells using cytological and morphological analyses by fluorescence microscopy to distinguish cancer cell classes;
 - (c) determining the classification of the cancer cells isolated, wherein the cancer cell classification comprises terminal cells and proliferative cells;
 - (d) conducting a second isolation of circulating cancer cells in a body fluid sample of the patient;
 - (e) repeating (b) on the cells from the second isolation;
 - (f) repeating (c) on the cells from the second isolation;
 - (g) assessing whether a medical procedure is efficient based on the classification determined in (c) as compared to the classification determined in (f); and
 - (h) wherein the first isolation is conducted before the administration of the medical procedure and the second isolation is conducted after the administration of the medical procedure.

Please add the following new claims 27 and 28: 3

A 7

27. (New) The method of any one of claims 1, 19 and 21, wherein said cancer cells are breast cancer cells.

28. (New) The method of any one of claims 1, 19 and 21, wherein said cancer cells are prostate cancer cells.